

Part 3, Chapter 3: Regulations regarding commercial fishing.

RULE 3.4 REGULATIONS REGARDING PADDLEFISH MANAGEMENT ZONES AND THE PERIODS THE ZONES ARE OPEN TO THE COMMERCIAL HARVEST OF PADDLEFISH

A. This rule delineates the waters of the state into Management Zones for the conservation of Paddlefish and defines the period when the zones are open to the commercial harvest of Paddlefish. Some Zones are managed as a group to provide refuge areas to facilitate management of Paddlefish stocks.

B. Any restrictions listed in this Rule do not pertain to persons engaged in sport fishing.

C. The gear and hours that are legal to harvest Paddlefish are defined in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2.

D. The harvest of Paddlefish from streams not part of a public waterway or from lakes without public access shall require that the harvester obtain from a riparian landowner written permission to cross their property for access to that body of water.

E. The following Management Zones shall be open to the commercial harvest of Paddlefish:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Lower Big Black River Zone: | December 2 - December 6, 2013 |
| 2. Lake Mary Zone: | December 9 - December 13, 2013
and March 3 - March 7, 2014 |
| 3. Yazoo Zone: | December 15 - December 31, 2013. |
| 4. Lower Sunflower River Zone: | January 1 - January 31, 2014 |
| 5. Coldwater Zone: | February 1 - February 23, 2014 |
| 6. Moon Lake Zone: | February 24 - February 28, 2014 |
| 7. Mississippi River Zone: | November 20, 2013 – December 1, 2013
and March 8 – April 10, 2014 |
| 8. Paddlefish Summer Harvest Zone: | May 1 - August 31, 2014 |

F. Descriptions of Paddlefish Harvest Zones:

1. Lower Big Black River Zone: public waters of the main channel of the Big Black River from the confluence with the Mississippi River upstream to the Interstate 20 Bridge in Warren and Claiborne Counties, including any lakes or stream adjacent (within 200 yards) to the main channel. The following special regulations will be in effect:

a. No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish.

b. The maximum number of nets a Paddlefish Harvester may fish is five (5).

c. Paddlefish nets, as described in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2, shall be set at sunrise and retrieved prior to 5:00 p.m. daily.

d. Nets must be run at least once within a 2-hour period.

2. Lake Mary Zone: Lake Mary in Wilkinson County. The old Homochitto River channels are not included. The following special regulations will be in effect:

a. No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish.

b. The maximum number of nets a Paddlefish Harvester may fish is five (5).

c. Paddlefish nets, as described in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3, Rule 3.2., shall be set at sunrise and retrieved prior to 5:00 p.m. daily.

d. Nets must be run at least once within a 2-hour period.

3. Yazoo Zone: No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish the public waters of the main channel of the Yazoo River from the outlet of Wasp Lake in Humphreys County to the northern outlet of Centennial Lake (Warren County/ Madison Parish, LA), and any lakes or streams adjacent (within 200 yards) to the main channel, including the following waters:

a. Eastern half of Lake George, including the Lake George Diversion canal;

b. The abandoned channel of the Big Sunflower River east of and including the Will Whittington Lower Auxiliary Channel to the State Route 433/Satartia Road Bridge;

c. The upstream end of the Will Whittington Lower Auxiliary Channel to the first weir;

d. Parker Bayou/Black Creek (Holmes County) that lies west of US Highway 49E;

e. Tchula Lake from the junction of the outlet of Bee Lake to the Yazoo River;

f. Waters of Warren County that are north of Kings Point Road/Kings Point Ferry Road, east of the eastern most point of the Louisiana border in Paw Paw Island Chute, south of the Yazoo Backwater Levee, and west of Route 3;

g. Steele Bayou south of the Steele Bayou Control Structure in Issaquena County;

h. Paddlefish Harvesters are allowed to access the zone via boat from the public boat ramp on the Yazoo River in Vicksburg.

4. Lower Sunflower River Zone: No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvest permit holders will be allowed to fish the public waters of Sharkey County and Issaquena County that

are within the mainline levee of the Mississippi River and the backwater levee of the Yazoo River, including the following waters:

a. Sunflower River along the Washington-Humphreys County line, south of the Jordan Landing Boat Ramp at Murphy;

b. Holly Bluff Cutoff in Sharkey and Yazoo Counties;

c. Sunflower Diversion Canal within Warren County;

d. Steele Bayou in Warren and Issaquena Counties.

5. Coldwater Zone: No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish the public waters of Tunica County and Quitman County and all public waters north of Highway 32 in Tallahatchie County.

6. Moon Lake Zone: Moon Lake in Coahoma County. The following special regulations will be in effect:

a. No more than **10** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish.

b. The maximum number of nets a Paddlefish Harvester may fish is five (5).

c. Paddlefish nets, as described in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2, shall be set at sunrise and retrieved prior to 5:00 p.m. daily.

d. Nets must be run at least once within a 2-hour period.

e. All access to the lake and landing of Paddlefish must take place at the Moon Lake Landing public boat ramp.

7. Mississippi River Zone: No more than **20** Paddlefish Harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish the border waters with Arkansas along the Mississippi River as delineated in the reciprocal agreement with Arkansas to include: Mississippi River from the Tennessee-Mississippi state line south to a point due west of the Corregidor Light near Mile marker 507, including all waters within the mainline levees of the Mississippi River in Desoto, Tunica, Coahoma, Bolivar and Washington Counties.

8. Paddlefish Summer Harvest Zone: any waters open to commercial fishing as listed in Rule 3.1, except for the following waters:

a. Any waters part of, or tributaries to the Tennessee River, Tombigbee River or the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

b. Any waters part of, or tributaries in the Pascagoula River watershed.

G. Penalty for Violations

1. Violation of any of the Mississippi state laws or state regulations pertaining to the take of Paddlefish will be considered a Class I offense as specified in MISS. CODE ANN. §Section 49-7-90, and punishable as per the provisions of MISS. CODE ANN. §49-7-141.

2. Failure to submit or the falsification of any required Paddlefish information to the MDWFP on the specified forms by the specified time or date will result in the revocation of Paddlefish Harvester and Paddlefish Processor Permits.

HISTORY: Revised September 2013

SOURCE: MISS. CODE ANN. §§49-1-29, 49-4-4, and 49-7-90.

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B. Any restrictions listed in this Rule do not pertain to persons engaged in sport fishing.

C. The gear and hours that are legal to harvest Ppaddlefish are defined in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2.

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F. Descriptions of Paddlefish Harvest Zones:

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in Warren and Claiborne Counties, including any lakes or stream adjacent (within 200 yards) to the main channel. The following special regulations will be in effect:

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- b. The maximum number of nets a Paddlefish Harvester may fish is five (5).
- c. Paddlefish nets, as described in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2, shall be set at sunrise and retrieved prior to 5:00 p.m. daily.
- d. Nets must be run at least once within a 2-hour period.

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- a. No more than **10** ~~P~~paddlefish ~~H~~harvester permit holders will be allowed to fish.
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- c. Paddlefish nets, as described in 40 Mississippi Administrative Code Part 3 Rule 3.2, shall be set at sunrise and retrieved prior to 56:00 p.m. daily.
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e. All access to the lake and landing of ~~P~~paddlefish must take place at the Moon Lake Landing public boat ramp.

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2. Failure to submit or the falsification of any required Ppaddlefish information to the MDWFP on the specified forms by the specified time or date will result in the revocation of Paddlefish Harvester, ~~Paddlefish Buyer/Exporter~~ and Paddlefish Processor Permits.

HISTORY: Revised September 2013

SOURCE: MISS. CODE ANN. §§49-1-29, 49-4-4, and 49-7-90.